

Attachment D

S184H220207 - 24
Marvin Lopez
Tulare County Office of Education
6200 S. Mooney Blvd
Visalia, CA 93277

S184H220207 - 24

Tim Hire
Tulare County Office of Education
6200 S Mooney Blvd
Visalia, CA 93277



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

S184H220207 - 24

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

1	RECIPIENT NAME Tulare County Office of Education 6200 S Mooney Blvd Visalia, CA 93277	2	AWARD INFORMATION PR/AWARD NUMBER S184H220207 - 24 ACTION NUMBER 6 ACTION TYPE Administrative AWARD TYPE Discretionary (Research and Development)										
3	PROJECT STAFF RECIPIENT PROJECT DIRECTOR Marvin Lopez (559) 730-2695 marvinL@tcoe.org EDUCATION PROGRAM CONTACT Corinne Full (202) 804-7452 corinne.full@ed.gov EDUCATION PAYMENT HOTLINE G5 PAYEE HELPDESK 888-336-8930 obssed@servicenowservices.com	4	PROJECT TITLE 84.184H Tulare County Office of Education's 2022 School Based Mental Health program, Preparing Rural Inclusive Mental Health Educators (PRIMHE)										
5	KEY PERSONNEL <table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>NAME</u></th><th><u>TITLE</u></th><th><u>LEVEL OF EFFORT</u></th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Marvin Lopez</td><td>Project Director</td><td>60 %</td></tr> </tbody> </table>			<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>LEVEL OF EFFORT</u>	Marvin Lopez	Project Director	60 %				
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**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

S184H220207 - 24

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

10

PR/AWARD NUMBER: S184H220207 - 24
 RECIPIENT NAME: Tulare County Office of Education
 GRANTEE NAME: TULARE COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION
 6200 S MOONEY BLVD,
 VISALIA, CA 93277 - 9396
 PROGRAM INDIRECT COST TYPE: Unrestricted
 PROJECT INDIRECT COST RATE: 7.2%

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- (1) No First-Time No Cost Extension Without Prior Approval: The Department is providing notice that this grant is not eligible for a first-time no-cost extension of the project period consistent with 34 CFR 75.261(a)(1) and 2 CFR 200.308(g)(2).

AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL

DATE

EXPLANATION OF BLOCKS ON THE GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

For Discretionary, Formula and Block Grants (See Block 2 of the Notification)

1. RECIPIENT NAME - The legal name of the recipient or name of the primary organizational unit that was identified in the application, state plan or other documents required to be submitted for funding by the grant program.

2. AWARD INFORMATION - Unique items of information that identify this notification.

PR/AWARD NUMBER - A unique, identifying number assigned by the Department to each application. On funded applications, this is commonly known as the "grant number" or "document number." The PR/Award Number is also known as the Federal Award Identifying Number, or FAIN.

ACTION NUMBER - A numeral that represents the cumulative number of steps taken by the Department to date to establish or modify the award through fiscal or administrative means. Action number "01" will always be "NEW AWARD"

ACTION TYPE - The nature of this notification (e.g., NEW AWARD, CONTINUATION, REVISION, ADMINISTRATIVE)

AWARD TYPE - The particular assistance category in which funding for this award is provided, i.e., DISCRETIONARY, FORMULA, or BLOCK. If this award was made under a Research and Development grant program, the terms RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT will appear under DISCRETIONARY, FORMULA OR BLOCK.

3. PROJECT STAFF - This block contains the names and telephone numbers of the U.S. Department of Education and recipient staff who are responsible for project direction and oversight.

***RECIPIENT PROJECT DIRECTOR** - The recipient staff person responsible for administering the project. This person represents the recipient to the U.S. Department of Education.

EDUCATION PROGRAM CONTACT - The U.S. Department of Education staff person responsible for the programmatic, administrative and business management concerns of the Department.

EDUCATION PAYMENT CONTACT - The U.S. Department of Education staff person responsible for payments or questions concerning electronic drawdown and financial expenditure reporting.

4. PROJECT TITLE AND CFDA NUMBER - Identifies the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) subprogram title and the associated subprogram number.

5.* KEY PERSONNEL - Name, title and percentage (%) of effort the key personnel identified devotes to the project.

6. AWARD PERIODS - Project activities and funding are approved with respect to three different time periods, described below:

BUDGET PERIOD - A specific interval of time for which Federal funds are being provided from a particular fiscal year to fund a recipient's approved activities and budget. The start and end dates of the budget period are shown.

PERFORMANCE PERIOD - The complete length of time the recipient is proposed to be funded to complete approved activities. A performance period may contain one or more budget periods.

***FUTURE BUDGET PERIODS** - The estimated remaining budget periods for multi-year projects and estimated funds the Department proposes it will award the recipient provided substantial progress is made by the recipient in completing approved activities, the Department determines that continuing the project would be in the best interest of the Government, Congress appropriates sufficient funds under the program, and the recipient has submitted a performance report that provides the most current performance information and the status of budget expenditures.

7. AUTHORIZED FUNDING - The dollar figures in this block refer to the Federal funds provided to a recipient during the award periods.

***THIS ACTION** - The amount of funds obligated (added) or de-obligated (subtracted) by this notification.

***BUDGET PERIOD** - The total amount of funds available for use by the grantee during the stated budget period to this date.

***PERFORMANCE PERIOD** - The amount of funds obligated from the start date of the first budget period to this date.

RECIPIENT COST SHARE - The funds, expressed as a percentage, that the recipient is required to contribute to the project, as defined by the program legislation or regulations and/or terms and conditions of the award.

RECIPIENT NON-FEDERAL AMOUNT - The amount of non-federal funds the recipient must contribute to the project as identified in the recipient's application. When non-federal funds are identified by the recipient where a cost share is not a legislation requirement, the recipient will be required to provide the non-federal funds.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION - This information is provided to assist the recipient in completing the approved activities and managing the project in accordance with U.S. Department of Education procedures and regulations.

UEI - The UEI, issued in SAM.gov, is a unique 12 character organization identifier assigned to each recipient for payment purposes.

***REGULATIONS** - Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations(CFR), Part 200 as adopted at 2 CFR 3474; the applicable parts of the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), specific program regulations (if any), and other titles of the CFR that govern the award and administration of this grant.

***ATTACHMENTS** - Additional sections of the Grant Award Notification that discuss payment and reporting requirements, explain Department procedures, and add special terms and conditions in addition to those established, and shown as clauses, in Block 10 of the award. Any attachments provided with a notification continue in effect through the project period until modified or rescinded by the Authorizing Official.

9. LEGISLATIVE AND FISCAL DATA - The name of the authorizing legislation for this grant, the CFDA title of the program through which funding is provided, and U.S. Department of Education fiscal information.

FUND CODE, FUNDING YEAR, AWARD YEAR, ORG.CODE, PROJECT CODE, OBJECT CLASS -

The fiscal information recorded by the U.S. Department of Education's Grants Management System (G5) to track obligations by award.

AMOUNT - The amount of funds provided from a particular appropriation and project code. Some notifications authorize more than one amount from separate appropriations and/or project codes. The total of all amounts in this block equals the amount shown on the line, "THIS ACTION" (See "AUTHORIZED FUNDING" above (Block 7)).

10. TERMS AND CONDITIONS - Requirements of the award that are binding on the recipient.

***PARTICIPANT NUMBER** - The number of eligible participants the grantee is required to serve during the budget year.

***GRANTEE NAME** - The entity name and address registered in the System for Award Management (SAM). This name and address is tied to the UEI registered in SAM under the name and address appearing in this field. This name, address and the associated UEI is what is displayed in the SAM Public Search.

***PROGRAM INDIRECT COST TYPE** - The type of indirect cost permitted under the program (i.e. Restricted, Unrestricted, or Training).

***PROJECT INDIRECT COST RATE** - The indirect cost rate applicable to this grant.

***AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL** - The U.S. Department of Education official authorized to award Federal funds to the recipient, establish or change the terms and conditions of the award, and authorize modifications to the award

FOR FORMULA AND BLOCK GRANTS ONLY:

(See also Blocks 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 10 above)

3. PROJECT STAFF - The U.S. Department of Education staff persons to be contacted for programmatic and payment questions.

7. AUTHORIZED FUNDING

CURRENT AWARD AMOUNT - The amount of funds that are obligated (added) or de-obligated (subtracted) by this action.

PREVIOUS CUMULATIVE AMOUNT - The total amount of funds awarded under the grant before this action.

CUMULATIVE AMOUNT - The total amount of funds awarded under the grant, this action included.

10. AFFILIATE - If an affiliate digital signature appears on this GAN, it is the digital signature belonging to the individual delegated the authority to affix the Authorizing Official's signature to the GAN.

* This item differs or does not appear on formula and block grants.

**SPECIFIC GRANT TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR
FINANCIAL AND PERFORMANCE REPORTS****PERFORMANCE REPORTS:**

(1) FINAL REPORTS - ALL RECIPIENTS are required to submit a final performance report within 120 days after the expiration or termination of grant support in accordance with submission instructions provided in box 10 of the Grant Award Notification (GAN), or through another notification provided by the Department of Education (Department) ([2 CFR § 200.329\(c\)](#)).

(2) ANNUAL, QUARTERLY, or SEMIANNUAL REPORTS - ALL RECIPIENTS of a multi-year discretionary award must submit an annual Grant Performance Report ([34 CFR § 75.118](#)). The annual performance report shall provide the most current performance and financial expenditure information that is sufficient to meet the reporting requirements of 2 CFR §§ [200.328](#), [200.329](#), [200.332](#), and [34 CFR §§ 75.590; 75.718; 75.720; 75.623; and 75.732](#).

Your education program contact will provide you with information about your performance report submissions, including the due date, as a grant term or condition in box 10 on the GAN, or through another notification provided by the Department. The grant term or condition in box 10 on the GAN or another notification may reflect any of the following:

1. That a performance report is due before the next budget period begins. The report should contain current performance and financial expenditure information for this grant. It will either identify the date the performance report is due or state that the Department will provide additional information about this report, including due date, at a later time.
2. That an interim performance report is required because of the nature of the award or because of statutory or regulatory provisions governing the program under which this award is made, and that the report is due more frequently than annually as indicated, e.g., due quarterly and submitted within 30 days after the end of each quarter, or due semiannually and submitted within 30 days after the end of each 6-month period ([2 CFR § 200.329\(c\)\(1\)](#)).
3. That other reports are required, e.g., program specific reports required in a program's statute or regulation or specific conditions are applied ([2 CFR § 200.208](#)).

(3) FINANCIAL REPORTS – SOME RECIPIENTS:

If a financial report is required, your education program contact will provide you with information about your financial report submission, including the due date, as a grant term or condition in box 10 on the GAN, or through another notification.

A [Standard Form \(SF\) 425 Federal Financial Report \(FFR\)](#) is required if:

1. A grant involves cost sharing, and the [ED 524B](#), which collects cost sharing information, is not submitted or a program-specific report approved by U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) does not collect cost sharing information;
2. Program income was earned;

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3. Indirect cost information is to be reported and the ED 524B was not used or a program-specific report approved by OMB does not collect indirect cost information;
4. Program regulations or statute require the submission of the FFR; or
5. Specific Award Conditions, or specific grant or subgrant conditions for designation of “high risk,” were imposed in accordance with 2 C.F.R. part [200.208](#) and part [3474.10](#) and required the submission of the FFR.

If the FFR is required, the notification may indicate one of the following (see the form and its instructions at [Standard Form \(SF\) 425 Federal Financial Report \(FFR\)](#)):

1. Quarterly - FFRs are required for reporting periods ending on 12/31, 03/31, 06/30, 09/30, and are due within 30 days after each reporting period.
2. Semi-annual - FFRs are required for reporting periods ending on 03/31 and 09/30, and are due within 30 days after each reporting period.
3. Annual - FFRs are required for reporting period ending 09/30, and is due within 30 days after the reporting period.
4. Final - In coordination with the submission of final performance reports, FFRs are due within 120 days after the project or grant period end date (2 CFR § [200.328](#)).

When completing an FFR for submission, the following must be noted:

1. *Multiple Grant Reporting Using SF 425A Prohibited:* While the FFR is a governmentwide form that is designed for single grant and multiple grant award reporting, the Department’s policy is that multiple grant award reporting is not permitted for Department grants. Thus, a Department grantee that is required to submit an FFR in accordance with any of the above referenced selections must complete and submit one FFR for each of its grants. Do not use the FFR attachment (Standard Form 425A), which is available for reporting multiple grants, for reporting on Department grants. As such, references to multiple grant reporting and to the FFR attachment in item 2 of the FFR are not applicable to Department grantees. With regards to item 1 of the note found in the FFR Instructions, a grantee must complete items 10(a) through 10(o) for each of its grants. The multiple grant and FFR attachment reference found in item 2 of the Line Item Instructions for the FFR is not applicable to Department grants.
2. *Program Income:* Unless disallowed by statute or regulation, a grantee will complete item 10(m) or 10(n) in accordance with the options or combination of options as provided in 2 CFR Part [200.307](#). A grantee is permitted, in accordance with 2 CFR Part [200.307](#), to add program income to its Federal share to further eligible project or program objectives, use program income to finance the non-Federal share of the project or program; and deduct program income from the Federal share of the total project costs.
3. *Indirect Costs:* A grantee will complete item 11(a) by listing the indirect cost rate type identified on its indirect cost rate agreement, as approved by its cognizant agency for indirect costs.

A Department grantee that does not have an indirect cost rate agreement approved by its cognizant agency for indirect costs, and that is using the Department approved (beyond the 90-day temporary period) temporary indirect cost rate of 10% of budgeted direct salaries and wages, or the de minimis rate of 15% of modified total direct cost (MTDC) must list its indirect cost rate in 11(a) as a Department Temporary Rate or De Minimis Rate. The de minimis rate of 15% of MTDC consists of:

All direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and subawards and contracts up to the first \$50,000 of each subaward (i.e., subgrant). MTDC excludes equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs and the portion of each subaward in excess of \$50,000. Other items, including contract costs in excess of \$50,000, may be excluded when necessary to avoid a serious inequity in the distribution of indirect costs ([2 CFR 200.1 “Modified Total Direct Cost \(MTDC\)”](#)).

A training program grantee whose recovery of indirect cost limits indirect cost recovery to 8% of MTDC or the grantees negotiated indirect cost rate, whichever is less in accordance with [34 CFR § 75.562 \(c\)](#), must list its rate in 11(a) as a Department Training Grant Rate. The 8% limit does not apply to agencies of Indian tribal governments, local governments, and States¹ as defined in [2 CFR § 200.1](#).

A restricted program grantee must list its rate as a Restricted Indirect Cost Rate in 11(a). A restricted program (i.e., programs with statutory supplement-not-supplant requirements) grantee must utilize a restricted indirect cost rate negotiated with its cognizant agency for indirect costs, or may elect to utilize a restricted indirect cost rate of 8% MTDC if their negotiated restricted indirect cost rate calculated under 34 CFR [75.563](#) and [76.564 – 76.569](#), is not less than 8% MTDC. A State or local government² that is a restricted program grantee may not elect to utilize the 8% MTDC rate. Additionally, restricted program grantees may not utilize the de minimis rate, but may utilize the temporary rate until a restricted indirect cost rate is negotiated. If a restricted program grantee elects to utilize the temporary rate, it must list its rate as a Department Temporary Rate in 11(a).

Grantees with indirect cost rates prescribed in program statute or regulation must list their rate as a Rate Required in Program Statute or Regulation in 11(a). Grantees are required to follow program-specific statutory or regulatory requirements that mandate either indirect cost rate type or maximum administrative costs recovery.

For detailed information including restrictions related to temporary, de minimis, training, restricted, and program prescribed indirect cost rates see GAN ATTACHMENT 4.

4. *Supplemental Pages:* If grantees need additional space to report financial information, beyond what is available within the FFR, they should provide supplemental pages. These additional pages must indicate the following information at the top of each page: the PR/Award Number

¹ Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a “State government” for these purposes; and a Tribal college or university funded by a federally-recognized Tribe is not considered a Tribe for these purposes.

² Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a “State government” for these purposes.

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also known as the Federal Identifying Number or FAIN, recipient organization, Unique Entity Identifier, Employer Identification Number (EIN), and period covered by the report.

Upon request of the Secretary, a grantee must, at the time of submission to the Secretary, post any performance and financial reports on a public-facing website maintained by the grantee, after redacting any privacy or confidential business information (34 CFR § 75.720).

AN OVERVIEW OF AUDIT REQUIREMENTS OF STATES, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, AND NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

This GAN ATTACHMENT is not applicable to for-profit organizations. For-profit organizations comply with audit requirements specified in block 10 of their Grant Award Notification (GAN).

Summary of Audit Requirements for States, Local Governments, and Nonprofit Organizations:

1. Single Audit. A non-Federal entity (a State, local government, Indian tribe, Institution of Higher Education (IHE)¹, or nonprofit organization) that expends \$1,000,000 or more in Federal awards during the non-Federal entity's fiscal year must have a single audit conducted annually in accordance with [2 CFR § 200.501](#), "Audit Requirements," except when it elects to have a program specific audit conducted.
2. Program-specific audit election. When an auditee expends Federal awards under only one Federal program (excluding research and development (R&D)), and the Federal program's statutes, regulations, or the terms and conditions of the Federal award do not require a financial statement audit of the auditee, the auditee may elect to have a program-specific audit conducted. A program-specific audit may not be elected for R&D unless all of the Federal awards expended were received from the same Federal agency, or the same Federal agency and the same pass-through entity, and that Federal agency, or pass-through entity in the case of a subrecipient, approves in advance a program-specific audit.
3. Exemption when Federal awards expended are less than \$1,000,000. A non-Federal entity that expends less than \$1,000,000 during the non-Federal entity's fiscal year in Federal awards is exempt from Federal audit requirements for that year, except as noted in [2 CFR § 200.503](#), but records must be available for review or audit by appropriate officials of the Federal agency, pass-through entity, and Government Accountability Office (GAO). Generally, grant records must be maintained for a period of three years after the date of the final expenditure report ([2 CFR § 200.334](#)).
4. Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDC). Management of an auditee that owns or operates a FFRDC may elect to treat the FFRDC as a separate entity ([2 CFR § 501\(e\)](#)).
5. Report Submission. To meet audit requirements of U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Uniform Guidance: Cost Principles, Audit, and Administrative Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), grantees must submit all audit documents required by Uniform Guidance [2 CFR § 200.512](#), as well as relevant

¹ As defined under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) section 101.

SF-SAC workbook(s) electronically to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse at:
<https://www.fac.gov/>.

6. The audit, the workbook(s), and reporting package must be submitted within of 30 calendar days after receipt of the auditor's report(s) or nine months after the end of the audit period (whichever is earlier). If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the reporting package is due the next business day. The auditee must make copies available for public inspection unless restricted by Federal statutes or regulation. Auditees and auditors must ensure that their respective parts of the reporting package do not include protected personally identifiable information ([2 CFR § 200.512](#)).

Additional grantee requirements can be found in Uniform Guidance [§200.510](#), including:

- Preparing financial statements that reflect the grantee's financial position, results of operations or changes in net assets, and where appropriate, cash flows for the fiscal year audited;
- Preparing a schedule of expenditures of Federal awards (SEFA) for the period covered by the grantee's financial statements;
 - List Federal programs by Federal agency
 - For Federal awards received as a subrecipient, the name of the pass-through entity and assigned identifying number
 - Provide the total Federal awards expended for each Federal program and the Assistance Listing Number (ALN). For a cluster of programs, also provide the total for the cluster
 - Include the total amount provided to subrecipients from each Federal program

Grantees are strongly urged to obtain the "OMB Compliance Supplement" and to contact their cognizant agency for single audit technical assistance. This supplement will be instructive to both grantees and their auditors. Appendix III of the supplement provides a list of Federal Agency Contacts for Single Audits, including addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, and e-mail addresses for technical assistance.

The designated cognizant agency for single audit purposes is "the Federal awarding agency that provides the predominant amount of direct funding to the recipient." The Compliance Supplement will be instructive to both grantees and their auditors. Appendix III of the supplement provides a list of Federal Agency Contacts for Single Audits, including addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, and e-mail addresses for technical assistance.

For single audit-related questions, if the U.S. Department of Education is the cognizant agency, grantees should contact the Non-Federal Audit Team in the Department's Office of Inspector General, at oignon-federalaudit@ed.gov. Additional resources for single audits are also available on the Non-Federal Audit Team's website at <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oig/nonfed/index.html>. For programmatic questions, grantees should contact the education program contact shown on the Department's GAN.

Grantees can obtain information on audits from:

The OMB website at www.omb.gov. Look under Office of Management and Budget (in right column) then click Office of Federal Financial Management (to obtain the Current OMB Compliance Supplement

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in the right column). The SF-SAC Workbooks and Instructions can be found at the Federal Audit Clearinghouse at:

<https://facides.census.gov/Files/2019-2021%20Checklist%20Instructions%20and%20Form.pdf>.

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) has illustrative OMB Single Audit report examples that might be of interest to accountants, auditors, or financial staff that can be downloaded by searching for “single audit report illustrations” at www.aicpa-cima.com.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PROGRAM INCOME

In projects that generate program income, the recipient calculates the amount of program income according to the guidance given in [2 CFR Part 200.307](#), which addresses the use and expenditure of program income as well as the methods for use of program income

***** IF YOU RECEIVED YOUR GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION ELECTRONICALLY AND YOU ARE SUBJECT TO ANY OF THE RESTRICTIONS IDENTIFIED BELOW, THE RESTRICTION(S) WILL APPEAR IN BOX 10 ON YOUR GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION AS A GRANT TERM OR CONDITION OF THE AWARD. *****

Unless checked below as NOT ALLOWED, the recipient may exercise any of the options or combination of options, as provided in [2 CFR Part 200.307](#), for using program income generated in the course of the recipient's authorized project activities:

_____ Not Allowed Adding program income to funds committed to the project by the Secretary and recipient and using it to further eligible project or program objectives;

_____ Not Allowed Using program income to finance the non-Federal share of the project or program; and

_____ Not Allowed Deducting program income from the total allowable cost to determine the net allowable costs.

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

The Department of Education adopts the requirements of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as codified at 22 U.S.C. 7101 to 7115, in 22 U.S.C. 7104(g); 22 U.S.C. 7104a; 22 U.S.C. 7104b; and 22 U.S.C. 7104c into this grant through this condition as per the Code of Federal Regulations at 2 CFR Part [175](#).

(a) Condition:

The Department, as authorized by 22 U.S.C. 7104b(c), may without penalty, terminate a grant or take any remedial actions if a recipient or subrecipient engages in:

- (1) Severe forms of trafficking in persons;
- (2) The procurement of a commercial sex act during the period of time that the grant or cooperative agreement is in effect;
- (3) The use of forced labor in the performance of the grant or cooperative agreement; or
- (4) Acts that directly support or advance trafficking in persons, including the following acts:
 - (i) Destroying, concealing, removing, confiscating, or otherwise denying an employee access to that employee's identity or immigration documents;
 - (ii) Failing to provide return transportation or pay for return transportation costs to an employee from a country outside the United States to the country from which the employee was recruited upon the end of employment if requested by the employee, unless:
 - (A) exempted from the requirement to provide or pay for such return transportation by the Department; or
 - (B) the employee is a victim of human trafficking seeking victim services or legal redress in the country of employment or a witness in a human trafficking enforcement action;
 - (iii) Soliciting a person for the purpose of employment, or offering employment, by means of materially false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises regarding that employment;
 - (iv) Charging recruited employees a placement or recruitment fee; or

(v) Providing or arranging housing that fails to meet the host country's housing and safety standards.

(b) Compliance plan and certification requirement:

(1) Prior to receiving a grant, if the estimated value of services required to be performed under the grant or cooperative agreement outside the United States exceeds \$500,000, you must certify that:

(i) You have implemented a plan to prevent the activities described in paragraph (a) of this section, and are in compliance with this plan;

(ii) You have implemented procedures to prevent any activities described in paragraph (a) of this section and to monitor, detect, and terminate any subrecipient, contractor, subcontractor, or employee of the recipient engaging in any activities described in paragraph (a) of this section; and

(iii) To the best of your knowledge, neither you, nor any subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor of the recipient or any agent of the recipient or of such a subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor, is engaged in any of the activities described in paragraph (a) of this section.

(2) Annual certification. You must submit an annual certification consistent with paragraph (b)(1) of this section for each year the award is in effect.

(3) Compliance plan. Any plan or procedures implemented pursuant to paragraph (b) must be appropriate to the size and complexity of the grant or cooperative agreement and to the nature and scope of its activities, including the number of non-United States citizens expected to be employed.

(4) Copies of the compliance plan. The recipient must provide a copy of the plan to the grant officer upon request, and as appropriate, must post the useful and relevant contents of the plan or related materials on its website and at the workplace.

(5) Minimum requirements of the compliance plan. The compliance plan must include, at a minimum, the following:

(i) An awareness program to inform recipient employees about the Government's policy prohibiting trafficking-related activities described in paragraph (a) of this section, the activities prohibited, and the actions that will be taken against the employee for violations. Additional information about Trafficking in Persons and examples of awareness programs can be found at the website for the Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons at <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/>.

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(ii) A process for employees to report, without fear of retaliation, activity inconsistent with the policy prohibiting trafficking in persons.

(iii) A recruitment and wage plan that only permits the use of recruitment companies with trained employees, prohibits charging recruitment fees to the employees or potential employees and ensures that wages meet applicable host-country legal requirements or explains any variance.

(iv) A housing plan, if the recipient, subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor intends to provide or arrange housing, that ensures that the housing meets host-country housing and safety standards.

(v) Procedures to prevent agents, subrecipients, contractors, or subcontractors at any tier and at any dollar value from engaging in trafficking in persons, including activities in paragraph (a) of this section, and to monitor, detect, and terminate any agents, subgrants, or subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor employees that have engaged in such activities.

(c) Notification to Inspectors General and cooperation with government. In addition, you must:

(1) Immediately inform the Department and Inspector General of the Department of any information you receive from any source that alleges credible information that you, any subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor, or any agent of your organization or subrecipient, contractor, or subcontractor, has engaged in conduct described in paragraph (a) of this section; and

(2) Fully cooperate with any Federal agencies responsible for audits, investigations, or corrective actions relating to trafficking in persons.

**FEDERAL FUNDING ACCOUNTABILITY TRANSPARENCY ACT
REPORTING SUBAWARDS AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) is designed to increase transparency and improve the public's access to Federal government information. To this end, FFATA requires that Department of Education (Department) grant recipients:

1. Report **first-tier subawards** made under Federal grants that are funded at \$30,000 or more that meet the reporting conditions as set forth in this grant award term;
2. Report a subaward if a modification increases the Federal funding to an amount that equals or exceeds \$30,000;
3. Report their executives' compensation for all new Federal grants that are funded at \$30,000 and that meet the reporting conditions as set forth in this grant award term; and
4. Report executive compensation data for their **first-tier subrecipients** that meet the reporting conditions as set forth in this grant award term.

For FFATA reporting purposes, the Department grant recipient is the entity listed in box 1 of the Grant Award Notification.

Only **first-tier subawards** made by the Department grant recipient to its **first-tier subrecipients** and the **first-tier subrecipients'** executive compensation are required to be reported in accordance with FFATA.

Subaward, Subrecipient, Recipient, Total Compensation, Executives, and other key terms, are defined within item 5, Definitions, of this grant award term.

This grant award term is issued in accordance with [2 CFR Part 170—Reporting Subaward And Executive Compensation Information](#).

1. Reporting of First-tier Subawards -

a. Applicability and what to report.

Unless you are exempt as provided item 4, Exemptions, of this grant award term, you must report each obligation that **equals or exceeds \$30,000** in Federal funds for a first-tier subaward to a non-Federal entity or Federal agency.

You must report the information about each obligating action that are specified in the submission instructions posted at [FSRS](#).

b. Where and when to report.

The Department grant recipient must report each obligating action described in paragraph **1.a.** of this award term to [FSRS](#).

Report subaward information no later than the end of the month following the month in which the subaward obligation was made. For example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2025, the obligation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2025.

2. Reporting Total Compensation of the Department's Grant Recipients' Executives -**a. Applicability and what to report.**

You must report total compensation for each of your five most highly compensated executives for the preceding completed fiscal year, if—

- i The total Federal funding authorized to date under this Federal award **equals or exceeds \$30,000**;
- ii In the preceding fiscal year, you received—
 - A. 80 percent or more of your annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at [2 CFR 170.320](#) (and subawards), **and**
 - B. \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at [2 CFR 170.320](#) (and subawards); **and**,
 - C. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 after receipt of a subaward. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <http://www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm>.)

b. Where and when to report.

You must report executive total compensation described in paragraph **2.a.** of this grant award term:

- i As part of your registration profile at <https://www.sam.gov>.
- ii No later than the month following the month in which this award is made and annually after that. (For example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2025, the executive compensation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2025, and annually thereafter.)

3. Reporting of Total Compensation of Subrecipient Executives –**a. Applicability and what to report.**

Unless you are exempt as provided in item 4, Exemptions, of this award term, for each first-tier **non-Federal entity** subrecipient under this award, you shall report the names and total compensation of each of the subrecipient's five most highly compensated executives for the subrecipient's preceding completed fiscal year, if—

- i The total Federal funding authorized to date under this Federal award **equals or exceeds \$30,000**;
- ii In the preceding fiscal year, you received—
 - A. 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at [2 CFR 170.320](#) (and subawards), **and**
 - B. \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at [2 CFR 170.320](#) (and subawards); **and**,
 - C. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 after receipt of a subaward. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at <http://www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm>.)
- b. *Where and when to report.*

You must report subrecipient executive total compensation described in paragraph **3.a.** of this grant award term:

- i. In [FSRS](#). You must include a condition on subawards that requires the subrecipients to timely report the information required under paragraph **3.a.** to you the prime awardee, or in the [SAM.gov](#). Subrecipient executive compensation entered in [SAM.gov](#) by the subrecipient will pre-populate in [FSRS](#), so you do not have to report when subrecipients enter this information in [SAM.gov](#). Subrecipient executive compensation not entered in [SAM.gov](#) by the subrecipient is reported in [FSRS](#) by you the Department grant recipient.
- ii. No later than the end of the month following the month during which you make the subaward. For example, if the subaward obligation was made on November 7, 2025 the subrecipient's executive compensation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2025.

4. **Exemptions –**

- a. If, in the previous tax year, you had gross income, from all sources, under \$300,000, you are exempt from the requirements to report:
 - i. Subawards, and
 - ii. The total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of any **subrecipient**.

5. **Definitions -**

- a. For purposes of this award term:

Entity includes:

(1) Whether for profit or nonprofit:

(i) A corporation;

(ii) An association;

(iii) A partnership;

(iv) A limited liability company;

(v) A limited liability partnership;

(vi) A sole proprietorship;

(vii) Any other legal business entity;

(viii) Another grantee or contractor that is not excluded by subparagraph (2); and

(ix) Any State or locality;

(2) Does not include:

(i) An individual recipient of Federal financial assistance; or

(ii) A Federal employee.

Executive means an officer, managing partner, or any other employee holding a management position.

Subaward has the meaning given in [2 CFR § 200.1](#).

Subrecipient has the meaning given in [2 CFR § 200.1](#).

Total Compensation means the cash and noncash dollar value an executive earns during an entity's preceding fiscal year. This includes all items of compensation as prescribed in [17 CFR § 229.402\(c\)\(2\)](#).

**SPECIFIC CONDITIONS FOR DISCLOSING
FEDERAL FUNDING IN PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

When issuing statements, press releases, requests for proposals, bid solicitations and other documents describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with Federal money, U.S. Department of Education grantees shall clearly state:

- 1) the percentage of the total costs of the program or project which will be financed with Federal money;
- 2) the dollar amount of Federal funds for the project or program; and
- 3) the percentage and dollar amount of the total costs of the project or program that will be financed by non-governmental sources.

**PROHIBITION OF TEXT MESSAGING AND EMAILING WHILE DRIVING
DURING OFFICIAL FEDERAL GRANT BUSINESS**

Federal grant recipients, subrecipients, and their grant personnel are prohibited from text messaging while driving a government owned vehicle, or while driving their own privately-owned vehicle during official grant business, or from using government supplied electronic equipment to text message or email when driving.

Recipients must comply with these conditions under Executive Order 13513, "Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving," October 1, 2009.

REGISTRATION OF UNIQUE ENTITY IDENTIFIER (UEI) NUMBER AND TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (TIN) IN THE SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM.gov)

The U.S. Department of Education's (Department) Grants Management System (G5) disburses payments via the U.S. Department of Treasury (Treasury). The U.S. Treasury requires that we include your Tax Payer Identification Number (TIN) with each payment. Therefore, to do business with the Department you must have a registered Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and TIN number in SAM.gov, the U.S. Federal Government's primary registrant database.

What is a UEI? SAM.gov assigns a UEI to entities when they pass validation in SAM.gov. The UEI is a 12-character alphanumeric identifier used in SAM.gov and other federal government systems to identify a unique entity.

If the payee UEI number is different than your grantee UEI number, both numbers must be registered in SAM.gov. Failure to register both will delay the receipt of payments from the Department.

What is a TIN? A TIN is an identification number used by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in the administration of tax laws. It is issued either by the Social Security Administration (SSA) or by the IRS. A Social Security number (SSN) is issued by the SSA whereas all other TINs are issued by the IRS.

The following are all considered [TINs according to the IRS](#).

- Social Security Number "SSN"
- Employer Identification Number "EIN"
- Individual Taxpayer Identification Number "ITIN"
- Taxpayer Identification Number for Pending U.S. Adoptions "ATIN"
- Preparer Taxpayer Identification Number "PTIN"

If your UEI number is not currently registered with SAM.gov, you can easily register by going to www.sam.gov. Allow at least ten business days after you submit your registration for it to become active in SAM.gov. If you need a new TIN, please allow 2-5 weeks for your TIN to become active. If you need assistance during the registration process, you may contact the Federal Service Desk (FSD). Live chat information and other information about the FSD is available at: [GSAFSD Service Portal Landing - GSA Federal Service Desk Service Portal](#).

If you are currently registered with SAM.gov, you may not have to make any changes. However, please take the time to validate that the TIN associated with your UEI is correct.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the G5 Hotline at 888-336-8930.

SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR RECIPIENTS AND THEIR SUBRECIPIENTS

1. Requirement for System for Award Management (SAM.gov)

Unless you are exempted from this requirement under 2 CFR § 25.110, you are, in accordance with your grant program's Notice Inviting Applications, required to maintain an active [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) registration with current information about your organization, including information on your immediate and highest level owner and subsidiaries, as well as on all predecessors that have been awarded a Federal contract or grant within the last three years, if applicable, at all times during which you have an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding agency. To remain registered in [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) after your initial registration, you are required to review and update your information in [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) on an annual basis from the date of initial registration or subsequent updates to ensure it is current, accurate and complete.

2. Recipient Requirements of Subrecipients

In accordance with 2 CFR § 25.300 you are required to ensure that your subrecipients have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). Note that subrecipients are not required to complete full registration in [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) to obtain a UEI, which is required for an entity to **directly** do business with the Federal government. Instead, subrecipients may obtain a UEI by signing up in [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) to get an account and establish a profile.

You may not make a subaward to a subrecipient that has not obtained a UEI and provided it to you, and you are required to notify any potential subrecipients that you cannot make a subaward unless the subrecipient obtains a UEI and provides it to you.

3. Definitions

For purposes of this award term:

1. System for Award Management (SAM.gov) means the Federal repository into which a recipient must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. See 2 CFR 25.400.
2. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) Means the universal identifier assigned by SAM.gov to uniquely identify business entities. See 2 CFR 25.400.
3. Recipient means an entity that receives a Federal award directly from a Federal agency to carry out an activity under a Federal program. The term recipient does not include subrecipients or individuals that are participants or beneficiaries of the award. See 2 CFR 200.1.
4. Subaward means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to contribute to the goals and objectives of the project by carrying out part of a Federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor, beneficiary, or participant. A subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement consistent with criteria in with § 200.331, including an agreement the pass-through entity considers a contract. See 2 CFR 200.1.

5. Subrecipient means an entity that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a Federal award. The term subrecipient does not include a beneficiary or participant. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly from a Federal agency. See 2 CFR 200.1.

**KEY FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCRETIONARY GRANTS
AWARDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

The Department expects grantees to administer Department grants in accordance with generally accepted business practices, exercising prudent judgment to maintain proper stewardship of taxpayer dollars. This includes using fiscal control and fund accounting procedures that insure proper disbursement of and accounting for Federal funds. In addition, grantees may use grant funds only for obligations incurred during the funding period.

Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards," establishes requirements for Federal awards made to non-Federal entities. The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR Parts 75, 76, 77, 79, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99 contain additional requirements for administering discretionary grants made by this Department. The most recent version of these regulations may be accessed at the following URLs:

[2 CFR 34 Subtitle A \(see EDGAR Parts 75, 76, 77, 79, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, & 99\)](#)

[2 CFR Part 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards](#)

The information on page 2 of this enclosure, "Selected Topics in Administering Department Discretionary Grants," highlights major administrative requirements of 2 CFR Part 200. In addition, a few of the topics explain requirements that the Department imposes on its discretionary grantees under EDGAR, Part 75 (Direct Grants). The specific sections of 2 CFR Part 200 and of EDGAR that address the topics are shown in parentheses. The Department urges grantees to read the full text of these and other topics in EDGAR and in 2 CFR Part 200.

Grantees are reminded that a particular grant might be subject to additional requirements of the authorizing statute for the program that awarded the grant and/or any regulations issued by the program office. Grantees should become familiar with those requirements as well because program-specific requirements might differ from those in 2 CFR Part 200 and in EDGAR.

The Department recommends that the project director and the fiscal management staff of a grantee organization communicate frequently with each other about the grant budget. Doing so will help to ensure that you use Federal funds only for those expenditures associated with activities that conform to the goals and objectives approved for the project.

Grantees may direct any questions regarding the topics on page 2 of this enclosure, "Selected Topics in Administering Department Discretionary Grants," or about any other aspect of administering your grant award to the Department program staff person named in Block 3 of the Grant Award Notification.

SELECTED TOPICS IN ADMINISTERING DEPARTMENT DISCRETIONARY GRANTS**I. Financial Management Systems (2 CFR § 200.302)**

The grantee's and subrecipient's financial management system must provide for the following (see §§ 200.334, 200.335, 200.336, and 200.337):

- Identification of all Federal awards received and expended and the Federal programs under which they were received. Federal program and Federal award identification must include, as applicable, the Assistance Listings title and number, Federal award identification number, year the Federal award was issued, and name of the Federal agency or pass-through entity.
- Accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of each Federal award or program in accordance with the reporting requirements in §§ 200.328 and 200.329.
- Maintaining records that sufficiently identify the amount, source, and expenditure of Federal funds for Federal awards. These records must contain information necessary to identify Federal awards, authorizations, financial obligations, unobligated balances, as well as assets, expenditures, income, and interest. All records must be supported by source documentation.
- Effective control over, and accountability for, all funds, property, and assets. The grantee or subrecipient must safeguard all assets and ensure they are used solely for authorized purposes. See § 200.303.
- Comparison of expenditures with budget amounts for each Federal award.
- Written procedures to implement the requirements of § 200.305.
- Written procedures for determining the allowability of costs in accordance with subpart E of 2 CFR Part 200 and the terms and conditions of the Federal award.

State systems must account for funds in accordance with State laws and procedures that apply to the expenditure of and the accounting for a State's own funds. A State's procedures, as well as those of its subrecipients and contractors, must be sufficient to permit the preparation of reports that may be required under the award as well as provide the tracing of expenditures to a level adequate to establish that award funds have not been used in violation of any applicable statutory restrictions or prohibitions.

II. Internal controls (2 CFR § 200.303)

The grantee and subrecipient must:

- Establish, document, and maintain effective internal control over the Federal award that provides reasonable assurance that the grantee or subrecipient is managing the Federal award in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. These internal controls should align with the guidance in "Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government" issued by the Comptroller General of the United States or the "Internal Control Integrated Framework" issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO).
- Comply with the U.S. Constitution, Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award.
- Evaluate and monitor the grantee's or subrecipient's compliance with statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of Federal awards.

- Take prompt action when instances of noncompliance are identified.
- Take reasonable cybersecurity and other measures to safeguard information including protected personally identifiable information (PII) and other types of information consistent with applicable Federal, State, local, and tribal laws regarding privacy and responsibility over confidentiality.

III. Federal Payment (2 CFR § 200.305)

Under this part --

- the Department pays grantees in advance of their expenditures if the grantee demonstrates a willingness and ability to minimize the time between the transfer of funds to the grantee and the disbursement of the funds by the grantee;
- where the time between the transfer of funds to the grantee and the disbursement of funds cannot be minimized, the preferred method of payment is reimbursement of expenditures incurred by the non-Federal entity;
- grantees, generally, must maintain advance payments of Federal awards in interest bearing accounts that are insured; grantees or subrecipients may retain up to \$500 per year of interest earned on Federal funds to use for administrative expenses of the grantee or subrecipient. Any additional interest earned on Federal funds must be returned annually to the Department of Health and Human Services Payment Management System (PMS) through either the Automated Clearing House (ACH) network or a Fedwire Funds Service payment. All interest in excess of \$500 per year must be returned to PMS regardless of whether the grantee or subrecipient was paid through PMS. Instructions for returning interest can be found at: [Returning Funds/Interest | HHS PSC FMP Payment Management Services](#).

In general, grantees should make payment requests frequently, only for small amounts sufficient to meet the cash needs of the immediate future.

The Department has recently encountered situations where grantees failed to request funds until long after the grantee actually expended its own funds for the costs of its grant. Grantees need to be aware that, by law, Federal funds are available for grantees to draw down for only a limited period of time, after which the funds revert to the U.S. Treasury. In some cases grantees have requested funds too late for the Department to be able to pay the grantees for legitimate costs incurred during their project periods. The Department urges financial managers to regularly monitor requests for payment under their grants to assure that Federal funds are drawn from the Department G5 Payment System at the time those funds are needed for payments to vendors and employees.

IV. Personnel (EDGAR 34 CFR §§ 75.511-75.519 and 2 CFR Part 200 Subparts D and E)

The rules governing personnel costs are located in EDGAR Part 75 and 2 CFR Part 200 Subparts D and E. Part 75 covers issues such as paying consultants with grant funds, prohibiting dual compensation of staff, and waiving the requirement for a full-time project director. The rules clarifying changes in key project staff are located in 2 CFR § 200.308 (f)(2). General rules governing reimbursement of salaries and compensation for staff working on grant projects are addressed in the post Federal award requirements and cost principles in 2 CFR Part 200

Subparts D and E. In all cases, payments of any type to personnel must be supported by complete and accurate records of employee time and effort. For those employees that work on multiple functions or separately funded programs or projects, the grantee must also maintain time distribution records to support the allocation of employee salaries among each function and separately funded program or project.

V. Cost Principles (2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E)

All costs incurred under any grant are subject to the cost principles found in 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E. The cost principles provide a list of selected items of allowable and unallowable costs and must be used in determining the allowability of costs funded under the grant.

VI. Procurement Standards (2 CFR §§ 200.317-327)

Under 2 CFR §§ 200.317 – 200.327, States are required to follow the procurement rules the States have established for purchases funded by non-Federal sources. When procuring goods and services for a grant's purposes, all other grantees (i.e., grantees that are not States) may follow their own procurement procedures, but only to the extent that those procedures meet the minimum requirements for procurement specified in the regulations. These requirements include written competition procedures and codes of conduct for grantee staff, as well as requirements for cost and price analysis, record-keeping and contractor compliance with certain Federal laws and regulations. These regulations also require grantees to include certain conditions in contracts and subcontracts, as mandated by the regulations and statutes.

VII. Indirect Costs (EDGAR §§§75.560-564, 76.560-569, and 2 CFR § 200.414)

In addition to the information presented below, see GAN ATTACHMENT 2 and 4 for additional information including restrictions related to temporary, de minimis, training, restricted and program prescribed indirect cost rates.

A. Unrestricted Indirect Cost Rate

To utilize an unrestricted indirect cost rate the grant must not have restricted (supplement-not-supplant), training, or program specific indirect cost rate restrictions.

To obtain an unrestricted indirect cost rate the grantee may:

- negotiate an indirect cost agreement with its cognizant agency for indirect costs (2 CFR §200.1 "Cognizant agency for indirect costs"), by submitting an indirect cost proposal within 90 days after the award of this grant; or
- elect to utilize the de minimis rate under 2 CFR §200.414(f); or
- a temporary indirect cost rate subject to the limitations in 34 CFR §75.560(d)

The grantee must provide proof of its negotiated indirect cost rate agreement to the Department as soon as it has signed such an agreement with its cognizant agency.

B. Temporary Indirect Cost Rate

A grantee that does not have a current negotiated indirect cost rate agreement may recover indirect costs at a temporary rate, which is limited to 10% of budgeted direct salaries and wages (See 34 CFR §§ 75.560(c) and 76.560(d)); or it may choose not to charge indirect costs to the grant. The temporary rate can only be used for 90 days unless the exceptional circumstances apply under 34 CFR § 75.560(d)(2).

If the grantee has not submitted its indirect cost proposal to its cognizant agency within the 90-day period, it may no longer recover indirect costs utilizing the temporary indirect cost rate until it has negotiated an indirect cost rate agreement with its cognizant agency. Once a grantee obtains a current federally recognized indirect cost rate that is applicable to this grant, the grantee may use that indirect cost rate to claim indirect cost reimbursement.

C. De minimis Indirect Cost Rate

Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), federally recognized Indian Tribes, State and Local Governments¹ receiving less than \$35 million (appendix VII to this part, paragraph D.1.b) in direct federal funding, and nonprofit organizations, if they do not have a current negotiated (including a provisional²) rate, and are not subject to the Department's training rate or restricted rate (supplement-not-supplant provisions) may elect to charge a de minimis indirect cost rate of 15% of modified total direct costs (2 CFR 200.1 "Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC)"). This rate may be used indefinitely.

MTDC consists of all direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and subawards and contracts up to the first \$50,000 of each subaward (i.e., subgrant). MTDC excludes equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs, and the portion of each subaward in excess of \$50,000. Other items, including contract costs in excess of \$50,000, may be excluded when necessary to avoid a serious inequity in the distribution of indirect costs (2 CFR 200.1 "Modified Total Direct Cost (MTDC)").

Additionally, the de minimis rate may not be used by grantees that are subject to the Department's training indirect cost rate (34 CFR § 75.562) or restricted indirect cost (34 CFR §§ 75.563 and 76.563). The de minimis rate may be used indefinitely. However, if a grantee chooses to use the de minimis rate to recover indirect costs, it must do so for all its Federal awards until such time as the grantee negotiates an indirect cost rate with its cognizant Federal agency. Once a grantee obtains a current federally recognized indirect cost rate that is applicable to this grant, the grantee may use that indirect cost rate to claim indirect cost reimbursement.

D. Restricted Indirect Cost Rate (Programs with a Supplement-not-supplant requirement)

A restricted program (i.e., programs with statutory supplement-not-supplant requirements) grantee must utilize a restricted indirect cost rate negotiated with its cognizant Federal agency for indirect costs

¹ Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a "State government" for these purposes.

² Provisional rate means a temporary indirect cost rate applicable to a specified period which is used for funding, interim reimbursement, and reporting indirect costs on Federal awards pending the establishment of a final rate for the period.

or may elect to utilize a restricted indirect cost rate of 8% MTDC if their negotiated restricted indirect cost rate calculated under 34 CFR §§ 75.563 and 76.564 – 76.569, is not less than 8% MTDC. A State or local government³ that is a restricted program grantee may not elect to utilize the 8% MTDC rate. Additionally, restricted program grantees may not utilize the de minimis rate but may utilize the temporary rate until a restricted indirect cost rate is negotiated.

E. Training Grant Indirect Cost Rate

If the grantee is a training grant recipient and is not a State, local, or Tribal government⁴, the grantee must negotiate a rate under 34 CFR § 75.562. This provision limits indirect cost recovery to 8% of modified total direct costs or the grantee's negotiated indirect cost rate, whichever is less.

The recovery using the training grant indirect cost rate is subject to the following limitations:

- i. The lesser of the 8% indirect cost rate or negotiated indirect cost rate also applies to sub-awards that fund training.
- ii. The 8% limit does not apply to agencies of Indian tribal governments, local governments, and States as defined in 2 CFR § 200.1, respectively.
- iii. Indirect costs in excess of the 8% limit may not be charged directly, used to satisfy matching or cost-sharing requirements, or charged to another Federal award.
- iv. A grantee using the training rate of 8% is required to have documentation available for audit that shows that its negotiated indirect cost rate is at least 8%.

F. Program-Specific Indirect Cost Rate

Grantees are required to follow program-specific statutory or regulatory requirements that mandate either indirect cost rate type or maximum administrative costs recovery instead of the general requirements described here.

VIII. Audit Requirements (2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F)

2 CFR 200 Subpart F requires that grantees that are non-Federal entities (a State, local government, Indian tribe, IHE, or nonprofit organization that carries out a Federal award as a recipient or subrecipient) obtain a non-Federal audit of their expenditures under their Federal grants if the grantee expends more than \$1,000,000 in Federal funds in one fiscal year. 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F contains the requirements imposed on grantees for audits conducted in connection with the Single Audit Act of 1984—Public Law No. 98-502 and its Amendments of 1996—Public Law No. 104-.

The Department recommends hiring auditors who have specific experience in auditing Federal awards under the regulations and the [Compliance Supplement](#).

³ Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a “State government” for these purposes.

⁴ Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a “State government” for these purposes; and a Tribal college or university funded by a federally recognized Tribe is not considered a Tribe for these purposes.

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IX. Other Considerations

Some other topics of financial management covered in 2 CFR Part 200 that might affect particular grants include program income (2 CFR § 200.307), cost sharing or matching (2 CFR § 200.306), property management requirements for equipment (2 CFR § 200.313), and equipment and other capital expenditures (2 CFR § 200.439).

MEMORANDUM TO ED DISCRETIONARY GRANTEES

You are receiving this memorandum to remind you of Federal requirements, found in 2 CFR Part [200](#), *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements*, regarding cash drawdowns under your grant account.

For any cash that you draw from your Department of Education (*the Department*) grant account, you must:

- draw down only as much cash as is necessary to meet the immediate needs of the grant project;
- keep to the minimum the time between drawing down the funds and paying them out for grant activities; and
- return to the Government the interest earned on grant funds deposited in interest-bearing bank accounts except for a small amount of interest earned each year that your entity is allowed to keep to reimburse itself for administrative expenses).

In order to meet these requirements, you are urged to:

- take into account the need to coordinate the timing of drawdowns with prior internal clearances (e.g., by boards, directors, or other officials) when projecting immediate cash needs so that funds drawn down from ED do not stay in a bank account for extended periods of time while waiting for approval;
- monitor the fiscal activity (drawdowns and payments) under your grant on a continuous basis;
- plan carefully for cash flow in your grant project during the budget period and review project cash requirements before each drawdown; and
- pay out grant funds for project activities as soon as it is practical to do so after receiving cash from the Department.

Keep in mind that the Department monitors cash drawdown activity for all grants. Department staff will contact grantees who appear to have drawn down excessive amounts of cash under one or more grants during the fiscal quarter to discuss the particular situation. For the purposes of drawdown monitoring, the Department will contact grantees who have drawn down 50% or more of the grant in the first quarter, 80% or more in the second quarter, and/or 100% of the cash in the third quarter of the budget period. However, even amounts less than these thresholds could still represent excessive drawdowns for your particular grant activities in any particular quarter. Grantees determined to have drawn down excessive cash will be required to return the excess funds to the Department, along with any associated earned interest, until such time as the money is legitimately needed to pay for grant activities. If you need assistance with returning funds and interest, please contact the Department's G5 Hotline by calling 1-888-336-8930.

Grantees that do not follow Federal cash management requirements and/or consistently appear on the Department's reports of excessive drawdowns could be:

- subjected to specific award conditions or designated as a "high-risk" grantee [2 CFR Part [200.208](#) and 2 CFR [3474.10](#)], which could mean being placed on a "cash-reimbursement" payment method (i.e., a grantee would experience the inconvenience of having to pay for grant activities with its own money and waiting to be reimbursed by the Department afterwards);

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- subject to further corrective action;
- denied selection for funding on future ED grant applications [EDGAR [75.217\(d\)\(3\)\(ii\)](#)]; and/or
- debarred or suspended from receiving future Federal awards from any executive agency of the Federal government.

You are urged to read 2 CFR Part 200.[305](#) to learn more about Federal requirements related to grant payments and to determine how to apply these requirements to any subgrantees. You are urged to make copies of this memorandum and share it with all affected individuals within your organization.

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to Assist U.S. Department of Education (ED) Grantees
to Appropriately Use Federal Funds for Food, Conferences, and Meetings¹**
August 2024

Using Federal ED Grant (Discretionary and Formula) Funds for Food

**1. May a grantee use its U.S. Department of Education (ED) grant funds for food, beverages,
or snacks at an event related to its grant?**

All grant expenditures, including those for food, beverages, or snacks, must be reasonable, necessary, allocable to the grant, and allowable. (Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) at 2 CFR §§ 200.403 through 200.405).²

Generally, a grantee needs to substantiate with specificity the rationale for why paying for food and beverages with Department funds is necessary to meet the goals and objectives of a grant. When a grantee is hosting an event related to its ED grant, the grantee should first consider structuring the agenda for the meeting so that there is time for participants to bring or purchase their own food, beverages, and snacks. In addition, when planning a meeting, grantees may want to consider a location in which participants have easy access to food and beverages.

There may be limited circumstances under which providing food or beverages is reasonable and necessary to achieve the purpose of a particular grant. Because food and beverage costs are not of a type generally recognized as ordinary and necessary for the operation of the grantee or the proper and efficient performance of the Federal award (see 2 CFR § 200.404(a)), grantees must document their evidence and analysis that justify that the use of food or beverage is reasonable and necessary in each instance.

In determining reasonableness of a given cost, including those for food and drink, consideration must be given to:

- Whether the cost is generally recognized as ordinary and necessary for the grantee's operation or the proper and efficient performance of the Federal award;
- The restraints or requirements imposed by such factors as: sound business practices; arm's-length bargaining; Federal, State, local, Tribal, and other laws and regulations; and terms and conditions of the Federal award;
- Market prices for comparable costs for the geographic area;
- Whether the individuals concerned acted with prudence in the circumstances considering their responsibilities to the recipient or grantee, its employees, its students or membership (if applicable), the public at large, and the Federal Government; and

¹ Other than statutory and regulatory requirements included in the document, the contents of this FAQ document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

² Revisions to 2 CFR part 200, referred to as the "OMB Uniform Guidance," were published on April 22, 2024, and are generally effective on October 1, 2024. In general, the April 2024 revisions do not substantively affect the content in this FAQ document. While the OMB Uniform Guidance in 2 CFR § 200.1 defines recipient, this FAQ uses the term grantee to align with the definitions that apply to ED regulations in the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR § 77.1.

- Whether the cost represents a deviation from the recipient or grantee's established written policies and procedures for incurring (2 CFR § 200.404).

Please note that, in addition to determining whether the costs are necessary and reasonable, State grantees also must determine whether the same costs are allowable under State law for the use of State funds. Under 2 CFR § 200.302(a), States are required to expend and account for Federal funds in accordance with State laws and procedures for expending and accounting for their own State funds. In other words, if State laws or procedures would not permit the use of State funds for conferences or meals, then State grantees may not use their Federal grant funds to pay those costs either.

2. Are there examples of when food costs might be considered reasonable and necessary to the performance of a particular grant?

The question of whether a food cost is reasonable and necessary to the performance of a grant will depend on the ED grant, including any program-specific rules or requirements that may apply to that grant, as well as the unique circumstances of the food cost. The following are some examples of situations when a food cost might be considered reasonable and necessary:

- Food costs at a family engagement event: For some ED programs, family engagement is a critical part of the purpose of the program or of the success of a project. In such a program, if a family meeting would occur during a typical mealtime, or if the grantee has evidence that attendance at the event would be affected by the absence of food or snacks, the grantee may be able to justify that is reasonable and necessary to provide light refreshments or meals to participants.
- Food costs for a working lunch at a day-long meeting: A grantee may find that one critical component of its grant activities is hosting an onsite day-long training for professionals working in a field that is a central focus of the grant. If the grantee is able to demonstrate that the lunchtime session is necessary to achieve the goals of the project, attendance at the lunchtime session is necessary to achieve full participation by attendees, and the business carried out at the lunchtime session could not be carried out at another reasonable time, the grantee may be able to justify that it is reasonable and necessary to provide meals or a snack to attendees.
- Light refreshments at a series of regular after-hours meetings: A grantee may find that an important part of its grant activities is hosting meetings after the traditional working day so that professionals from within the field but across different employers have an opportunity to collaborate on focused topics. If the grantee can demonstrate that the sessions have planned agendas that are central to the grant, that engaging this group of people is necessary to achieve the purposes of the grant, and that there is evidence that attendance at the meetings would be affected by the absence of food, the grantee may be able to justify that it is reasonable and necessary to provide light refreshments to participants.
- Costs of light snacks at a day-long meeting: To achieve the purposes of its grant, a grantee may find that is necessary to host day-long meetings or training sessions so that involved individuals can collaborate. If the grantee has evidence that providing light snacks (e.g., granola bars and water) at the meeting will result in improved participation, such as more

time spent on grant activities and less time needed for breaks during the sessions, the grantee may be able to justify that is reasonable and necessary to provide light snacks to participants.

If an ED grantee has questions about a specific food cost, they should contact their ED program officer.

3. What are examples of situations when costs for food would not be considered reasonable and necessary?

There are some situations when food costs would not be considered reasonable and necessary to a grant or would otherwise be unallowable under the *Uniform Guidance* found at 2 CFR part 200.

- Food costs at networking sessions: In nearly all cases, using grant funds to pay for food and beverages for networking sessions with a purely social focus is not justified because participation in such activities is rarely necessary to achieve the purpose of the grant.
- Food costs at regular staff meetings: Food costs for recurring business meetings, staff meetings, or other day-to-day activities are generally not reasonable because participation in such activities is rarely necessary to achieve the purpose of the grant.
- Food costs for remote meetings: Food costs for meetings conducted remotely, such as sending food to individual meeting participants' locations, are generally not justified since participants' participation is less impacted by them attending the meeting remotely.
- Entertainment: Federal grant funds may not be used to pay for entertainment, which includes costs for amusement, diversion, and social activities, unless they have a specific and direct programmatic purpose and are included in the Federal award. 2 CFR § 200.438. Celebrations, receptions, banquets, and other social events generally are not events where purchasing food with ED grant funds is appropriate.
- Alcohol: In all cases, use of Federal funds for alcoholic beverages is unallowable. 2 CFR § 200.423.

Using ED Federal Grant (Discretionary and Formula) Funds to Host a Meeting or Conference

4. May a grantee receiving funds from ED use its Federal grant funds to host a meeting or conference?

Yes. Federal grant funds may be used to host a meeting or conference if doing so is:

- Consistent with its approved application or plan;
- For purposes that are directly relevant to the program and the operation of the grant, such as for conveying technical information related to the objectives of the grant; and
- Reasonable and necessary to achieve the goals and objectives of the approved grant.

The *Uniform Guidance* in 2 CFR § 200.432 describes costs associated with conferences that may be allowable.

5. What are examples of “technical information” that may be conveyed at a meeting or conference?

Examples of technical information include, but are not limited to, the following, each of which must be related to implementing the program or project funded by the grant:

- Specific programmatic, administrative, or fiscal accountability requirements;
- Best practices in a particular field;
- Theoretical, empirical, or methodological advances in a particular field;
- Effective methods of training or professional development; and
- Effective grant management and accountability.

6. What factors should a grantee consider when deciding whether to host a meeting or conference?

Grantees should consider whether a face-to-face meeting or conference is the most effective or efficient way to achieve the desired result and whether there are alternatives, such as webinars or video conferences, that would be equally or similarly effective and more efficient in terms of time and costs than a face-to-face meeting. In addition, grantees should consider how the meeting or conference will be perceived by the public; for example, will the meeting or conference be perceived as a good use of taxpayer dollars?

7. Are there conflict-of-interest rules that grantees should follow when selecting vendors, such as logistics contractors, to help with a meeting or conference?

As specified in 2 CFR § 200.317, States and Indian Tribes³ must comply with their own procurement policies and procedures, including any policies or procedures for ensuring that there are no conflicts of interest in the procurement process. In addition to its own policies and procedures, a State or Indian Tribe must also comply with the following procurement standards: 2 CFR §§ 200.321, 200.322, 200.323, and 200.327. If a State or Indian Tribe does not have its own procurement policies and procedures, it must follow the procurement standards in 2 CFR §§ 200.318 through 200.327.

Other grantees must follow procurement procedures that are consistent with their State, local, or Tribal laws and regulations, as appropriate, and that are also consistent with 2 CFR §§ 200.318 through 200.327, including the minimum requirements in 2 CFR § 200.318 related to conflict of interest rules.

8. When a meeting or conference is hosted by a grantee and charged to a Federal grant, may the meeting or conference be promoted as a U.S. Department of Education event?

No. Meetings and conferences hosted by grantees are directed by the grantee, not the U.S. Department of Education. Therefore, the meeting or conference may not be promoted as a U.S. Department of Education meeting or conference, and the seal of the U.S. Department of Education must not be used on conference materials or signage, without ED's written approval. In addition, all meeting or conference materials paid for with Federal grant funds must include appropriate disclaimers, such as the disclaimer provided in 34 CFR§ 75.620. That language reads:

³ Please note that "States" were the only entities listed under 2 CFR § 200.317 prior to the revisions announced in OMB's April 22, 2024, *Federal Register* notice.

The contents of this [insert type of publication; such as book, report, film, website, and web page] were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education (Department). The Department does not mandate or prescribe practices, models, or other activities described or discussed in this document. The contents of this [insert type of publication] may contain examples of, adaptations of, and links to resources created and maintained by another public or private organization. The Department does not control or guarantee the accuracy, relevance, timeliness, or completeness of this outside information. The content of this [insert type of publication] does not necessarily represent the policy of the Department. This publication is not intended to represent the views or policy of, or be an endorsement of any views expressed or materials provided by, any Federal agency.

Please note that if a grantee charges a fee for attendance at a particular meeting or conference paid for with Federal grant funds, any income generated must be treated as program income under 2 CFR § 200.307 or specific program regulations addressing program income.

9. When a grantee is hosting a meeting or conference, may the grantee use Federal grant funds to pay for food, beverages, or snacks?

As detailed in questions #1-3 above, in general there is a need to substantiate with specificity the rationale for why paying for food and beverages with Department funds is necessary to meet the goals and objectives of a grant, but there may be circumstances when providing food or beverages at a conference is reasonable and necessary to achieve the purpose of the grant. Please see those questions for information about requirements and considerations related to food costs.

10. May a grantee contract with a hotel under which Federal grant funds will be used to provide meals, snacks, and beverages as part of the cost for meeting rooms and other allowable conference-related costs?

Federal grant funds may only be used for expenses that are reasonable and necessary. In planning a conference or meeting and negotiating with vendors for meeting space and other relevant goods and services, grantees may only pay for allowable costs. The fact that food and beverages are embedded in a contract for meeting space does not mean that the food and beverages are being provided at no cost to the grantee. Therefore, if the food and beverage cost is not an allowable cost, and a hotel vendor embeds food and beverage costs into a hotel contract for meeting space, the grantee should work with the hotel to have the food and beverage costs identified and removed from the contract, and have the price for the meeting space appropriately adjusted.

11. What if a hotel or other venue provides “complimentary” beverages (e.g., coffee, tea) and there is no charge to the grantee hosting the meeting?

The grantee has an obligation, under these circumstances, to confirm that the beverages are truly complimentary and will not be reflected as a charge to the grant in another area. For example, many hotels provide complimentary beverages to all guests who attend a meeting at their facility without reflecting the costs of those beverages in other items that their guests or, in this case, the grantee purchases. As noted above, it would not be acceptable for a vendor to embed the cost of beverages in other costs, such as meeting space, without those costs being separately allowable.

12. May indirect cost funds be used to pay for food and beverages?

No. The cost of food and beverages, which are related to meetings that are easily associated with a specific cost and grant objectives, are more appropriately treated as direct costs rather than indirect

costs. As noted above, Federal grant funds cannot be used to pay for food and beverages unless doing so is reasonable and necessary.

13. May a grantee use non-Federal resources (e.g., State or local resources) to pay for food or beverages at a meeting or conference that is being held to meet the goals and objectives of its grant?

Grantees should follow their own policies and procedures and State and local law for using non-Federal resources to pay for food or beverages, including its policies and procedures for accepting gifts or in-kind contributions from third parties. Grantees should be sure that any food and beverages provided with non-Federal funds are appropriate for the grantee event, and do not detract from the event's purpose. Please note that, in general, any funds that a grantee contributes to a project as part of the program's matching or cost-sharing requirement would be subject to the same rules that govern the Federal funds; therefore, the non-Federal funds used to pay for food and beverages for a meeting or conference could only be eligible for use in meeting cost-share or match obligations if Federal funds would also be allowable to pay for the food and beverages.

14. May grantees provide meeting participants with the option of paying for food and beverages (e.g., could a grantee have boxed lunches provided at cost for participants)?

Yes. Grantees may offer meeting participants the option of paying for food (such as lunch, breakfast, or snacks) and beverages, and arrange for these items to be available at the meeting.

Using Federal Grant Funds to Pay for Costs of Attending a Meeting or Conference Sponsored by ED or a Third Party

15. May grantees use Federal grant funds to pay for the cost of attending a meeting or conference?

If attending a meeting or conference is necessary to achieve the goals and objectives of the grant, and if the expenses are reasonable (based on the grantee's own policies and procedures, and State and local laws), Federal grant funds may be used to pay for travel expenses of grantee employees, consultants, or experts to attend a meeting or conference. To determine whether a meeting or conference is "necessary," grantees should consider whether the goals and objectives of the grant can be achieved without the meeting or conference and whether there is an equally effective and more efficient way (in terms of time and money) to achieve the goals and objectives of the grant (see question #6). To determine whether the expenses are "reasonable," grantees should consider how the costs (e.g., lodging, travel, registration fees) compare with other similar events and whether the public would view the expenses as a worthwhile use of Federal funds.

16. What should a grantee consider when planning to use Federal grant funds for attending a meeting or conference?

Among other considerations, grantees should consider how many people should attend a meeting or conference on its behalf. The number of attendees should be reasonable and necessary to accomplish the goals and objectives of the grant. The grantee should also determine whether it is necessary to attend the entire meeting or conference, or whether attending only a portion of the meeting or conference is reasonable and necessary.

17. What travel expenses may be paid for with Federal grant funds?

Grantees may use Federal grant funds for travel expenses only to the extent such costs are reasonable and necessary and do not exceed charges normally allowed by the grantee in its regular operations consistent with its written travel policies. See 2 CFR § 200.475. Federal grant funds may be used to pay expenses for transportation, per diem, and lodging if the costs are reasonable and necessary. Federal grant funds may not be spent on alcohol. See 2 CFR § 200.423. Grantees should follow their own travel and per diem rules and costs when charging travel expenses to their Federal grant. In the absence of an acceptable written policy regarding travel costs, grantees must satisfy the requirements of 2 CFR § 200.475(d).

18. What should grantees consider when including Federal employees at a grantee-sponsored meeting or conference?

In some situations, a grantee may invite a Federal employee to participate in or present at a grantee-organized meeting or conference. Federal employees are subject to Federal ethics laws and regulations. This includes laws and regulations governing conflicts of interest and gifts (e.g., waiver of a registration fee, travel expenses, and meals). Grantees may be subject to their own ethics laws and regulations, and grantee employees should ensure that they comply with them.

Questions Regarding the Allowable Use of Federal Grant Funds

19. What resources are available to help grantees determine whether costs associated with meetings and conferences are reasonable and necessary?

Grantees must follow all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements in determining whether costs are reasonable, necessary, and allowable, especially the regulations found at 2 CFR part 200.

20. Is it allowable for a person whose travel costs are being paid with Federal grant funds to attend a conference in Washington, D.C., and lobby members of Congress while in town?

Appropriated funds may not, except under very limited circumstances, be used for expenses related to any activity designed to influence the enactment of legislation, appropriations, regulations, administrative actions, or Executive Orders proposed or pending before the Congress or the Administration. See 2 CFR § 200.450. To the extent that a portion of time at a conference is spent on lobbying activities, costs associated with the lobbying, including transportation to and from Washington, D.C., lodging, and per diem, may not be charged to the Federal grant. For example, if a meeting or conference lasts for two days and a visit to lobby a member of Congress requires an additional day of travel, it could be determined that one-third (1/3) of all costs involved in attending the meeting or conference, including travel to and from Washington, D.C., may not be charged to the grant.

On the other hand, educating members of Congress about facts relevant to a particular grant program would not, absent other facts, constitute lobbying. For example, it would not be considered a prohibited lobbying activity for a grantee to inform a member of Congress about its program, the services it provides, and the individuals it serves. It also would not be considered a prohibited lobbying activity to attend a presentation by members of Congress related to issues relevant to a grantee's program or the population it serves in general. However, such education-oriented

discussions could easily cross—or appear to cross—the thin line to prohibited lobbying activities. For example, a discussion about the challenges a grantee faces with respect to requirements governing matching funds could easily expand to a discussion about the need for more appropriated funds or legislative changes, which would constitute prohibited lobbying activities. Given that Congress frequently considers the reauthorization of ED programs, a grantee’s interactions with members of Congress on such topics could meet the definition of lobbying, which is prohibited. In that case, the costs associated with those interactions could not be supported with Federal funds.

21. What are the consequences of using Federal grant funds on unallowable expenses?

ED may seek to recover any Federal grant funds identified, in an audit or through program monitoring, as having been used for unallowable costs, including unallowable conference expenses.

22. Whom should grantees call if they have specific questions about the allowable use of Federal grant funds?

ED grantees are encouraged to contact their ED program officer to discuss the allowable use of Federal grant funds, including the allowable use of Federal grant funds for meetings and conferences.

**MEMORANDUM TO REMIND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GRANTEEES OF EXISTING CASH
MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING PAYMENTS**

The Department of Education (the Department) requires that its grantees adhere to existing cash management requirements concerning payments and will ensure that their subgrantees are also aware of these policies by providing them relevant information.

A grantee's failure to comply with cash management requirements may result in an improper payment determination by the Department in accordance with the [Payment Integrity Information Act \(PIIA\) of 2019](#).

Excessive Drawdowns

In the context of grants, excessive drawdown refers to the situation where a grantee withdraws more funds than necessary from the grantor, which can lead to financial and compliance issues. In accordance with cash management requirements, grant funds are drawn down incrementally to cover immediate expenses related to the grant activities. If a grantee draws down excessive funds, they may be required to return the surplus along with interest. This situation can arise from poor financial management, lack of proper accounting practices, or misalignment with the grant's stipulated budget and objectives.

To avoid excessive drawdown, it is crucial for grantees to implement and maintain robust accounting systems, track expenses accurately, and adhere to the grant's budget and reporting requirements. Proper planning and monitoring of fund allocation, maintaining accurate records, and ensuring timely drawdowns aligned with actual expenses are essential practices. Additionally, grantees should be aware of the specific drawdown procedures and requirements set by the grantor, which can vary depending on whether the grant is federally funded or comes from other sources.

Cash Management Requirements

There are three categories of payment requirements that apply to the drawdown of funds from grant accounts at the Department. The first two types of payments are subject to the requirements in the Treasury Department regulations implementing the Cash Management Improvement Act (CMIA) of 1990, 31 U.S.C.6513, and the third is subject to the requirements in the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) at 2 CFR part 200,¹ as follows:

1. Payments to a State under programs that are covered by a State's Treasury State Agreement (TSA);
2. Payments to States under programs that are not covered by a TSA; and
3. Payments to other non-Federal entities, including nonprofit organizations and local governments.

¹ The Department adopts the Uniform Guidance as regulations of the Department at 2 CFR part 3474.

CMIA Requirements Applicable to Programs included in a TSA

Generally, under the Treasury Department regulations implementing the CMIA, only major assistance programs (large-dollar programs meeting thresholds in 31 CFR § 205.5) are included in a State's written TSA. See 31 CFR § 205, subpart A. Programs included in a TSA must use approved funding techniques and both States and the Federal government are subject to interest liabilities for late payments. State interest liabilities accrue from the day federal funds are credited to a State account to the day the State pays out the federal funds for federal assistance program purposes. 31 CFR § 205.15. If a State makes a payment under a Federal assistance program before funds for that payment have been transferred to the State, Federal Government interest liabilities accrue from the date of the State payment until the Federal funds for that payment have been deposited to the State account. 31 CFR § 205.14.

CMIA Requirements Applicable to Programs Not Included in a TSA

Payments to States under programs not covered by a State's TSA are subject to subpart B of Treasury's regulations in 31 CFR § 205. These regulations provide that a State must minimize the time between the drawdown of funds from the federal government and their disbursement for approved program activities. The timing and amount of funds transfers must be kept to a minimum and be as close as is administratively feasible to a State's actual cash outlay for direct program costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs. 31 CFR § 205.33(a). States should exercise sound cash management in funds transfers to subgrantees.

Under subpart B, neither the States nor the Department owe interest to the other for late payments. 31 CFR § 205.33(b). However, if a State or a Federal agency is consistently late in making payments, Treasury can require the program to be included in the State's TSA. 31 CFR § 205.35.

Fund transfer requirements for grantees other than State governments and subgrantees

The transfer of Federal program funds to grantees other than States and to subgrantees are subject to the payment and interest accrual requirements in the Uniform Guidance at 2 CFR § 200.305(b). These requirements are like those in subpart B of the Treasury Department regulations in 31 CFR part 205, requiring that "For recipients and subrecipients other than States, payment methods must minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds from the Federal agency or the pass-through entity and the disbursement of funds by the recipient or subrecipient regardless of whether the payment is made by electronic funds transfer or by other means." 2 CFR § 200.305(b).

The Federal Government and pass-through entities must make payments in advance of expenditures by grantees and subgrantees if these non-Federal entities maintain, or demonstrate the willingness to maintain, written procedures "that minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds and disbursement by the recipient or subrecipient, and financial management systems that meet the standards for fund control and accountability." 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(1). If a grantee or subgrantee cannot meet the criteria for advance payments, a Federal agency or pass-through entity can pay that entity through reimbursement. See 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(1) and (3) for more detailed description of the payment requirements and the standards for requiring that payments be made by reimbursement.

Returning Earned Interest

Non-Federal entities must maintain advance payments in interest bearing accounts unless certain conditions exist. See 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(11) for those conditions. The requirements regarding interest accrual and remittance follow:

Recipients or subrecipients may retain up to \$500 per year of interest earned on Federal funds to use for administrative expenses of the recipient or subrecipient. Any additional interest earned on Federal funds must be returned annually to the Department of Health and Human Services Payment Management System (PMS) through either the Automated Clearing House (ACH) network or a Fedwire Funds Service payment. All interest in excess of \$500 per year must be returned to PMS regardless of whether the recipient or subrecipient was paid through PMS. Instructions for returning interest can be found at [Returning Funds/Interest | HHS PSC FMP Payment Management Services](#). 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(12). Additionally, these instructions are provided below.

1. Returning Interest to PMS

PMS is the central collection point for interest earned on all federal grants, whether they are paid through the Payment Management System or not.

a. Domestic Automated Clearing House (ACH) Returns (Direct Deposit)

Returning funds via Automated Clearing House (ACH) means you will most likely be returning funds in the manner in which they were received at your organization.

ACH account information to be included:

- PSC ACH Routing Number is: [REDACTED]
- PSC DFI Accounting Number: [REDACTED]
- Bank Name: Credit Gateway - ACH Receiver
- Location: St. Paul, MN

Additionally, include the following:

- An explanation stating that the refund is for interest
- The name of the awarding agency
- The grant number(s) for which the interest was earned
- The return should be made payable to: Department of Health and Human Services.

b. International Automated Clearing House (ACH) Returns (Direct Deposit)

ACH Account Information to be Included For Payments Sent in **U.S. Dollars (USD)**:

- Beneficiary Account: Federal Reserve Bank of New York/ITS (Can abbreviate: FRBNY/ITS)
- Bank: Citibank N.A. (New York)
- SWIFT Code: [REDACTED]
- Account Number: [REDACTED]
- Routing Number: [REDACTED]
- Bank Address: 388 Greenwich Street, New York, NY 10013

- Payment Details (Line 70): Agency Name (abbreviated when possible) and Agency Locator Code (ALC)
- Agency POC: James Kruper, (301) 492-4998

For a USD payment, the payment sender must include:

- **Agency Locator Code (ALC):** [REDACTED]
- **Name:** US Department of Health and Human Services, PMS Account Number and Grant Subaccount Number in the Payment Details (Line 70) section of the SWIFT message.

This information must be in this section of the payment instructions, or the International Treasury Service (ITS) will not be able to identify the federal agency the payment is for. Without this identifying information, ITS will be required to return the payment as unidentified or unable to post. The receiving account is in the name of "Federal Reserve Bank of New York/ITS" and the payment originator should list that as the name on the beneficiary account.

Additionally, include the following:

- An explanation stating that the refund is for interest
- The name of the awarding agency
- The grant number(s) for which the interest was earned
- The return should be made payable to: Department of Health and Human Services.

c. FedWire Returns

Service charges may be incurred from a grantee's financial institution when a Fedwire to return interest is initiated. For FedWire returns, Fedwire account information is as follows:

- Fedwire Routing Number: [REDACTED]
- Agency Location Code (ALC): [REDACTED]
- Bank Name: Federal Reserve Bank
- Treas NYC/Funds Transfer Division
- Location: New York, NY

Additionally, include the following:

- An explanation stating that the refund is for interest
- The name of the awarding agency
- The grant number(s) for which the interest was earned
- The return should be made payable to: Department of Health and Human Services.

d. Check Returns (USPS Only)

Interest may be returned by check using only the U.S. Postal Service; however, returning interest via check may take 4-6 weeks for processing before a check payment may be applied to the appropriate PMS account.

- Interests returned by check are to be mailed (USPS only) to:

HHS Program Support Center
PO Box 979132
St. Louis, MO 63197

A brief statement explaining the nature of the return must be included.

To return interest on a grant not paid through the PMS, make the check payable to the Department of Health and Human Services, and include the following with the check:

- An explanation stating that the refund is for interest
- The name of the awarding agency
- The grant number(s) for which the interest was earned
- The return should be made payable to: Department of Health and Human Services.

Cash Management Monitoring Responsibilities of Pass-Through Entities

Grantees, including grantees that act as pass-through entities and subgrantees have other responsibilities regarding the use of Federal funds. For example, all grantees and subgrantees must have procedures for determining the allowability of costs for their awards. We highlight the following practices related to the oversight of subgrantee compliance with the financial management requirements in the Uniform Guidance that will assist State grantees (pass-through entities) in meeting their monitoring responsibilities. Under 2 CFR § 200.332, pass-through entities must –

1. Verify that the subrecipient is not excluded or disqualified in accordance with §180.300. Verification methods are provided in § 180.300, which include confirming in SAM.gov that a potential subrecipient is not suspended, debarred, or otherwise excluded from receiving Federal funds.
2. Ensure that every subaward is clearly identified to the subrecipient as a subaward and includes the information identified in § 200.332(b).
3. Evaluate each subrecipient's fraud risk and risk of noncompliance with a subaward to determine the appropriate subrecipient monitoring. See § 200.332(b) & (f).
4. Monitor the activities of a subrecipient as necessary to ensure that the subrecipient complies with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the subaward. The pass-through entity is responsible for monitoring the overall performance of a subrecipient to ensure that the goals and objectives of the subaward are achieved. See § 200.332(e).
5. Consider taking enforcement action against noncompliant subrecipients as described in § 200.339 and in program regulations.

A small number of Department grant programs have program-specific cash management and payment requirements based on the authorizing legislation or program regulations. These program-specific requirements may supplement or override general cash management or payment requirements. If you

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have any questions about your specific grant, please contact the Education Program Contact listed in Block 3 of your Grant Award Notification.

**RECIPIENTS OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON CASH MANAGEMENT****Q What are the Federal Laws and Regulations Regarding Payments to the States?**

A The *Cash Management Improvement Act of 1990 (CMIA)* establishes interest liabilities for the Federal and State governments when the Federal Government makes payments to the States. See 31 U.S.C. 3335 and 6503. The implementing regulations are in Title 31 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 205, [eCFR :: 31 CFR Part 205 -- Rules and Procedures for Efficient Federal-State Funds Transfers](#). Non-Federal entities other than States follow the rules on Federal payments set out in 2 CFR 200.305.

Q What is a Treasury-State Agreement (TSA)?

A A TSA documents the accepted funding techniques and methods for calculating interest agreed upon by the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) and a State. It identifies the Federal assistance programs that are subject to interest liabilities under the CMIA. The CMIA regulations specify several different funding techniques that may be used by a State, but a State can negotiate with the Treasury Department to establish a different funding technique for a particular program. A TSA is effective until terminated and, if a state does not have a TSA, payments to the State are subject to the default techniques in the regulations that Treasury determines are appropriate.

Q What are the CMIA requirements for a program subject to a Treasury-State Agreement?

A Payments to a State under a program of the Department are subject to the interest liability requirements of the CMIA if the program is included in the State's Treasury-State Agreement (TSA) with the Department of Treasury. If the Federal government is late in making a payment to a State, it owes interest to the State from the time the State spent its funds to pay for expenditure until the time the Federal government deposits funds to the State's account to pay for the expenditure. Conversely, if a State is late in making a payment under a program of the Department, the State owes interest to the Federal government from the time the Federal government deposited the funds to the State's account until the State uses those funds to make a payment. For more information, see GAN Enclosure 4.

Q What are the CMIA requirements for a program that is not subject to a Treasury-State Agreement?

A If a program is not included in the State's TSA, neither the State nor the Federal government are liable for interest for making late payments. However, both the Federal government and the State must minimize the time elapsing between the date the State requests funds and the date that the funds are deposited to the State's accounts. The State is also required to minimize the time elapsed between the date it receives funds from the Federal government and the date it makes a payment under the program. Also, the Department must minimize the amount of funds transferred to a State to only that needed to meet the immediate cash needs of the State. The timing and amount of funds transferred must be as close as is administratively feasible to a State's actual cash outlay for direct program costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs.

Q What if there is no TSA?

A When a State does not have a TSA in effect, default procedures in 31 CFR, part 205 that the Treasury Department determines appropriate apply. The default procedures will prescribe efficient funds transfer procedures consistent with State and Federal law and identify the covered Federal assistance programs and designated funding techniques.

Q Who is responsible for Cash Management?

A Grantees and subgrantees that receive grant funds under programs of the Department are responsible for the financial management and maintaining internal controls regarding the management of Federal program funds under the Uniform Guidance in accordance with 2 CFR 200.302 and 200.303 respectively. In addition, grantees are responsible for ensuring that subgrantees are aware of the cash management and requirements in 2 CFR part 200, subpart D.

Q Who is responsible for monitoring cash drawdowns to ensure compliance with cash management policies?

A Recipients must monitor their own cash drawdowns **and** those of their subrecipients to assure substantial compliance to the standards of timing and amount of advances.

Q How soon may I draw down funds from the G5 grants management system?

A Grantees are required to minimize the amount of time between the drawdown and the expenditure of funds from their bank accounts. (See 2 CFR 200.305(b).) Funds must be drawn only to meet a grantee's immediate cash needs for each individual grant. The G5 screen displays the following message:

By submitting this payment request, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the request is based on true, complete, and accurate information. I further certify that the expenditures and disbursements made with these funds are for the purposes and objectives set forth in the applicable Federal award or program participation agreement, and that the organization on behalf of which this submission is being made is and will remain in compliance with the terms and conditions of that award or program participation agreement. I am aware that the provision of any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information, or the omission of any material fact, may subject me, and the organization on behalf of which this submission is being made, to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties for fraud, false statements, false claims, or other violations. (U.S. Code Title 18, Section 1001; Title 20, Section 1097; and Title 31, Sections 3729-3730 and 3801-3812)

Q How may I use Federal funds?

A Federal funds must be used as specified in the Grant Award Notification (GAN) and the approved application or State plan for allowable direct costs of the grant and an allocable portion of indirect costs, if authorized.

Q What are the consequences to recipients/subrecipients for not complying with terms of the grant award?

A The Federal agency or pass-through entity may implement specific conditions if the recipient or subrecipient fails to comply with the U.S. Constitution, Federal statutes, regulations, or terms and conditions of the Federal award. See § 200.208 for additional information on specific conditions. When the Federal agency or pass-through entity determines that noncompliance

cannot be remedied by imposing specific conditions, the Federal agency or pass-through entity may take one or more of the following actions:

- Temporarily withhold payments until the recipient or subrecipient takes corrective action.
- Disallow costs for all or part of the activity associated with the noncompliance of the recipient or subrecipient.
- Suspend or terminate the Federal award in part or in its entirety.
- Initiate suspension or debarment proceedings as authorized in 2 CFR part 180 and the Federal agency's regulations, or for pass-through entities, recommend suspension or debarment proceedings be initiated by the Federal agency.
- Withhold further Federal funds (new awards or continuation funding) for the project or program.
- Pursue other legally available remedies.

Q Who is responsible for determining the amount of interest owed to the Federal government?

A As set forth in 31 CFR 205.9, the method used to calculate and document interest liabilities is included in the State's TSA. A non-State entity must maintain advances of Federal funds in interest-bearing accounts unless certain limited circumstances apply and remit interest earned on those funds to the Department of Health and Human Services, Payment Management System annually. See 2 CFR 200.305.

Q What information should accompany my interest payment?

A In accordance with 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(12)), interest in excess of \$500.00 earned on Federal advance payments deposited in interest-bearing accounts must be remitted annually to the Department of Health and Human Services Payment Management System (PMS) through an electronic medium using either Automated Clearing House (ACH) network or a Fedwire Funds Service payment. Instructions for returning interest, including the information that must be submitted, can be found at [Returning Funds/Interest | HHS PSC FMP Payment Management Services](#). Additionally, these instructions are provided in GAN Enclosure 4.

Q Are grant recipients/subrecipients automatically permitted to draw funds in advance of the time they need to disburse funds in order to liquidate obligations?

A The payment requirements in 2 CFR 200.305(b) authorize a grantee or subgrantee to request funds in advance of expenditures if certain conditions are met. However, if those conditions are not met, the Department and a pass-through agency may place a payee on reimbursement.

Q For formula grant programs such as ESEA Title I, for which States distribute funds to LEAs, may States choose to pay LEAs on a reimbursement basis?

A A subgrantee must be paid in advance if it meets the standards for advance payments in 2 CFR 200.305(b)(1) but if the subgrantee cannot meet those standards, the State may put the subgrantee on reimbursement payment. See 2 CFR 200.305(b).

Q Will the Department issue special procedures in advance if G5 plans to shut down for 3 days or more?

A Yes, before any shutdown of G5 lasting three days or more, the Department issues special guidance for drawing down funds during the shutdown. The guidance will include cash

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management improvement act procedures for States and certain State institutions of higher education and procedures for grants (including Pell grants) that are not subject to CMIA.